

Amendments to the claims:

- 1.(currently amended): A clad tube for nuclear fuel made by the process comprising steps:
  - a. placing a graphite mandrel in an electro deposit chamber as the cathode material;
  - b. placing rhenium stock in the electro deposit chamber as the anode material;
  - c. filling the electro deposit chamber with chloride electrolyte;
  - d. closing the electro deposit chamber;
  - e. heating the electrolyte bath to a desired temperature;
  - f. depositing rhenium on the mandrel to a desired thickness by applying current and voltage across the anode and cathode;
  - g. machining the rhenium on the mandrel to a final desired close tolerance dimension;
  - h. placing niobium alloy stock containing zirconium in the electro deposit chamber as the anode;
  - i. heating the electrolyte bath to a desired temperature;
  - j. depositing niobium alloy over the rhenium to a desired thickness by applying current and voltage across the anode and cathode while creating an atomic level bonded interface;
  - k. removing the mandrel from the electro deposit chamber and grinding the formed clad tube for nuclear fuel to a desired outer diameter; and
1. removing the formed tube from the mandrel.
- 2.(currently amended): The [process] clad tube of claim 1, wherein the electrolyte bath is heated to a temperature less than eight hundred degrees centigrade.
- 3.(currently amended): The [process] clad tube of claim 1, wherein the mandrel is lowered into the electrolyte bath below the level

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of the rhenium deposited on the mandrel prior to the step of depositing niobium alloy over the rhenium.